



Issue 548

Fearnfile

Headteacher's Message

Up and Running



▲ It has been a very busy and productive two weeks at Fearnhill. We have just come to the end of the series of **Open Evening and Open Mornings**, with more parents and carers than ever visiting us to see how life really works at Fearnhill. It has been a particular pleasure to see the conversations between our students and visitors, with the pride our students take in their school evident. The upgraded learning environment is a real pleasure to work and spend time in. If anyone would still like to visit, please remember we are always happy to welcome visitors. Just call or email admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk to arrange a time and we can give you a **guided tour**.

▲ Our **sixth formers** experienced the 'Learn to Live' presentation at the Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage this week. This is a hard hitting production to raise awareness of the dangers of driving, ensuring a proper understanding of the risks and embedding important safety messages for our students. There is a report inside. Our **Design Technology** department is also featured in this edition, as the department has undergone a transformation to ensure a real cutting edge(!) understanding of how, whichever materials you are using, the same design principles apply. It is an exciting time in this area of the school. This week we also celebrated the **European Day of Languages**

with our international **Bake Off** competition. This meant there was a lot of cake around with some wonderful designs and imaginations being stretched. Take a look at the pictures!

▲ Finally I am sure you are aware of the amazing achievement of our **Head of Maths, Miss Williams**, a few weeks ago. Miss Williams is now officially a **Welsh 'Iron Man'**, as she completed this extreme challenge successfully. There is a full report inside and she is a great inspiration to all of us when it comes to setting yourself a challenging goal, then working towards it with discipline and focus. Well done Miss Williams!

Thanks as always for your support,

Liz Ellis
Headteacher

Please follow us on
Facebook or Twitter to
find out what is going
on in school.



Careers Corner

Year 11 16+ Options Presentation



The Year 11 students have already started thinking about their option choices for after Year 11. They kicked off their PSHCE programme with their 16+ Options talk explaining all the qualification routes available to them next year. It is important that they now go away and research further possible pathways taking into consideration their learning styles, predicted grades, strengths and weaknesses and future aspirations.



An excellent website to assist students with these choices is www.ychertfordshire.org. Students should click on the 'JOBS & CAREERS' tab and select the relevant sections and follow the online instructions.

More information about this website will be covered in future editions of Fearnfile, there is so much on there for young people!



'Help Me Miss B'

Any student who wants help and advice on what to do after Year 11 or just to have a chat about what is suitable for them, can sign up on the help sheet on the Careers Office door (upstairs in the Business area).

Help me Miss B!!!
I need to talk to you
about what to do
after Year 11

If this is you then please fill in your details below & I will arrange a meeting with you!

Name	Form

Ms Balchin
Head of Careers, Work Related Learning & PSHCE

Year 12 Expectations Evening

On Thursday 10th October we have the Year 12 Expectations Evening here at Fearnhill. Parents/carers are invited along with their son/daughter to provide them with information about our expectations of the students as they work towards their A Levels/BTECs and how they can be supported at home during this crucial period in their education.

All who attend will receive information about the procedures and systems that are in place in the Sixth Form. Information will be provided on the following areas:

- Expectations
- Enrichment
- 16-19 bursary
- Consortium arrangements
- Future paths
- Academic and pastoral support
- Assessment
- Sixth Form procedures

By attending the evening, we hope parents/carers are well equipped with lots of useful information to help guide and support their son/daughter through this very important stage of their lives.

Mr Dixon
Director of Post 16

Modern Foreign Languages Department News

Great European Bake Off

The Modern Foreign Languages Department likes to celebrate **The European Day of Languages** every year on 26th September. Now in its eighteenth year, the European Day of Languages was first officially celebrated in 2002 following the success of the European Year of Languages in 2001. The day is organised jointly by the European Union and the Council of Europe. Europe is lucky to enjoy a rich diversity of language and cultures with 200 European languages, 24 Official EU languages and it is estimated around 60 regional or minority languages.

This year the Department organised a 'Great European Bake Off'. Each student was allocated a country to base their cake on. It was decided to broaden the competition to include other countries in the world where European languages are spoken. We were absolutely delighted to see such a wonderful array of cakes being brought in. Not only did we have themed cakes but we had some traditional ones brought in too. The standard of all the cakes was very high.

The cakes were displayed in the hall at lunchtime and pupils came to watch the judging and then help with the tasting after! Ms Ellis, Mrs Rainbow and Mr Spencer had the terrible task of choosing the winning cake! After much deliberating and tasting they eventually came to a decision. They decided that the winning cake was Poppy and Chanelle's, both in Year 10. The cake was a Jamaican ginger cake decorated with the Jamaican flag and other Jamaican specialties—it looked, smelt and tasted delicious.

After the judging the cakes were shared out amongst the audience. Everyone agreed that they all tasted absolutely wonderful and were of a very high quality. Well done to everyone who took part.



Ms M Davies
Subject Leader Modern Foreign Languages

Ironman Wales

We have an Ironman in our Midst!!

Students and staff at Fearnhill are currently brimming with pride and feeling somewhat in awe of Miss Williams, Head of Maths who took part in Ironman Wales on Sunday, 15th September. The triathlon held in Tenby, Wales comprises a 2.4 mile sea swim and a 112 mile bike ride followed by a 26.2 mile marathon, all to be completed within 17 hours!

There were just over 2600 athletes that attempted the challenge, with around 1600 finishing it and of those only 209 females! Miss Williams was proud to say that she was one of those 209 females, completing the course in 15 hours 36 minutes and 36 seconds.

Miss Williams says, 'It was one of the best days of my life and an experience I will never forget. The atmosphere was incredible, with over 30,000 supporters, many in fancy dress, lining the streets with banners, bells, clappers, air horns, boomboxes and much more.

The toughest part of the event for me was mile 90 to 112 on the bike, where I had been sat on the bike for over 8 hours, starting to get a bit of a numb bum and just became a bit bored.

It is difficult to choose a highlight of the day as there were so many highs but I would probably say it was the super steep climb up 'heartbreak hill' in Saundersfoot where my family and friends along with so many other supporters were shouting, screaming and cheering me on to get up the hill - I felt like I was on the Tour De France!

When I signed up for the challenge, I didn't plan to do it for charity and it was just a personal goal that I wanted to achieve. But around Christmas time, after discussions with many friends and family, I decided that I would use my challenge to try and raise money to help with disadvantaged children in Bangladesh who face the challenge of survival on a daily basis. To read more about this, you can check out my just giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/williamsironman2019> Any donations would be gratefully received!

Well done Miss Williams! We hope you can have a bit of a rest now, although we suspect you'll soon be back training for another event!



Read to Succeed

66 Book Club

One of Hertfordshire's best kept secrets is the 66 Book Club in Hemel Hempstead. 66 Books is open one weekend a month to members of the public (not businesses) and all books are **70% off RRP!**

There are books for all ages, piled high but neatly and you can easily spend hours browsing for bargains. There is both fiction and non-fiction, and a good selection of contemporary and classic young adult literature. There are also book sets for younger children which come with toys too, making it great for Christmas presents for the little people in your life.



The 'open to the public' dates for the remainder of this calendar year are :

- October 12th - 13th
- November 2nd - 3rd
- November 16th - 17th
- Nov 30th - Dec 1st
- December 14th - 15th

Opening times are 10am - 6pm and you can find more information at <https://www.66books.co.uk/monthly-book-club> Tel: 01442 239 402 and <https://www.facebook.com/66booksLtd/>

66 Books is located at Unit 2 Eastman Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 7DU, and is well worth the trek to West Herts.

Do let me know the gems you find if you make it over there.



Please follow us on Twitter [@FearnhillLib](https://twitter.com/FearnhillLib)



Email us at library@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Hunt
Head of Library

Please remember to send your son/daughter to school with a full water bottle.



Design Technology Department News

Reshape, Renovate, Renew

The Design Technology team have been working really hard to re-shape the department and give the students the best quality experience of the subject since the dramatic curriculum shake up. T7, which used to be a standard classroom, has been transformed into a Design Studio and the whole area, including T8, T9 and T10 are currently being transformed into a Design Suite. In order to establish a creative environment with a professional feel to it, T7 now has a large collaborative working space, 20 computers with design programmes such as 2D design and a clean space with light boxes, drawing boards and a vacuum former. T10, our metal work room, has been cleared out ready for our Year 7s to be introduced to the moulding and shaping of their tea lights whilst T9 is being transformed into the fabrics and fibres work space.



To support all this, new, fresh and inspiring displays have been put up to reflect the needs and demands of the Design Technology KS4 course content.

As Subject Lead for Design, I am incredibly proud of the work my team has done and look forward to sharing further developments as they happen.



Mrs Fullard
Subject Leader Design & Technology

English Department News

Affable was last week's word of the week. This week it's **complacency**. Students will get rewarded if they use the 'WOW' in their writing or when they are speaking in class. The idea is to introduce ambitious vocabulary into their use of language. Do ask your son/daughter what their 'WOW' is and try and see if you can use it at home when chatting too!



Affable: an adjective meaning friendly, easy to talk to, open to conversation.



Complacency: a noun meaning a feeling of calm satisfaction that prevents you from trying harder.



Youth Speaks Competition

Following on from our success at the Youth Speaks competition last year, with both our Intermediate and Senior teams making it through to the regional finals, we have once again been invited by the Rotary Club to take part in this national public speaking competition.

This year, the format is slightly different and takes the form of a debate.

Miss Corbishley is looking forward to taking her teams to victory this year too!

Rotary **YOUTH SPEAKS A Debate** COMPETITION 2019

Join our winning team!

Violence in the media causes violent behaviour

Social media causes more harm than good

Plastic shopping bags should be completely banned

Should medical testing on animals be allowed?

No-one wants to live to be a hundred

Artificial intelligence is the key to our future

Tourism doesn't contribute to the understanding between nations

Schools should teach mental health

DEBATE IT!

Rotary **YOUTH SPEAKS A Debate** COMPETITION

To register your team, please see Miss Corbishley in E1 at any time before 31st October 2019.



**Miss Corbishley
Second in English**

Sixth Form News

Year 12 Attend a Learn2Live Presentation on Road Safety

On Monday, 23rd September, Year 12 attended the Gordon Craig theatre in Stevenage to watch the National Road Safety campaign by an organisation called Learn2Live.

Learn2Live is a group that aims to inform young people of the dangers that can occur whilst driving.



The presentation consisted of raw emotion from real people involved in real and dangerous car accidents. There was a police officer who spoke about the pain brought onto families by irresponsible drivers. Also representing the cause was a 999 phone operator who played back a real phone call between herself and a young man who had just witnessed his friend die in a car crash. Other representatives included a victim of drunk driving and a father who had lost his daughter as a result of irresponsible driving.

The presentation shed light on the dangers of drunk driving, tiredness and reckless driving through distractions like mobile phones. Young people are less likely to know the dangers but most likely to commit them. Seventeen to nineteen year olds make up only 1.5% of drivers in the UK but make 9% of all fatal and serious car crashes.

When asking Year 12 students if they felt the trip would impact their future in driving, they said:

"I feel it will impact my driving because it was such an eye opening experience, it makes younger people more socially aware of the dangers that can happen when driving" – Ciara, Year 12

"To an extent because I felt I was already aware of these precautions. However I feel it helped less mature students come to terms with these realistic, but less considered, situations."

A year after seeing the presentation for themselves, Year 13s reflected on whether it still had an impact as they begin to consider driving/lessons.

"I think it has impacted me, I have not started driving yet but I'm sure that when I do start it will definitely be something I remember." Autumn, Year 13.

"I still consider the Learn2Live trip while driving. It's made me understand how easy it is to ruin someone's life over one foolish decision and it made me want to ensure everyone's safety in the car, including my own."

If you have any questions on road safety please visit the Learn2Live website: Learn-2-live.org.uk



Kayleigh Axford-Garner
Sixth Form Reporter

Cooks Corner



The lunches in the canteen, here at Fearnhill, are provided by Herts Catering Limited. HCL's ethos is to provide students with quality ingredients which are skilfully delivered by our enthusiastic team who are passionate about the standard of food delivered as well as the dining experience received.

As a fresh food organisation, HCL only use high quality ingredients and has complete control over every meal – so guidelines for minimizing the use of salt, sugar and saturated fats are met. Wherever possible steamers and combination ovens are used to ensure foods retain vitamins and goodness. This approach has the added benefit of reducing energy consumption and a more positive impact on the environment.

Here at Fearnhill we believe all students should enjoy good, fresh food, including those individuals with particular dietary requirements. If your son or daughter usually has a packed lunch, why not encourage them to try one of our lunches?



Mrs Hatch
Catering Manager

**WILBURY
COMMUNITY CAFE**

Join us for FREE:
Drinks and cakes (10:45 - 12:30)
Family play session (10:00-11:30)
Dance workshop (11:30 - 12:30)
Crafts, knitting and Lego
Frank's bike surgery

Plus: Pennies & Pounds stall, School uniform,
Tesco's Best Before groceries and lovely
handmade cards by Toni-Ann.

Special feature: Cats on a hot tin roof! Make a
fun collage with a local artist.

Sat 5th October, 10.45-12.30
Wilbury Hall (opposite Tesco) Bedford rd
wilburycommunity.org.uk



Student of the Week

W/e Friday 6th September

Student of the Week



Emily 7H
- 13 points

Form of the Week

7N - 160 points

House of the Week

Neville - 395 Points

Staff Member of the Week

Miss Christie - 315 points
(English Teacher)

W/e Friday 20th September

Student of the Week



Lily 8U
- 19 points

Form of the Week

8R - 236 points

House of the Week

Neville - 721 Points

Staff Member of the Week

Mrs Clifton - 345 points
(Lead Teacher in Art)

W/e Friday 13th September

Student of the Week



Lucie 10U
- 22 points

Form of the Week

9Q - 228 points

House of the Week

Howard - 604 Points

Staff Member of the Week

Mrs Clifton - 286 points
(Lead Teacher in Art)

**Thought of the Month -
September**

